

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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November 30, 2004

FROM: JAMES A. FELTEN, Director
Department of Public Health

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR CHLAMYDIA SCREENING AND TREATMENT PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize submission of the Grant Application to the California Family Health Council (CFHC) in the amount of \$33,333 for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Approval of this item authorizes submission of the Grant Application to CFHC. These funds will be used to implement the Venues for Alternative Screening and Treatment Program (VAST).

The purpose of the VAST Program is to expand chlamydia screening to harder-to-reach, at-risk youth between the ages of 15-24 who would not otherwise seek care at traditional clinic-based screening programs.

Chlamydia remains the most commonly reported sexually transmitted disease. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that 80% of all female chlamydia cases are within the 15-24 year old age group. The infection is broadly distributed geographically and socio-economically. In addition, there are no symptoms associated with most Chlamydia infections. At-risk individuals often face many barriers to receiving healthcare and are largely unaware of their infected status. For these reasons, many do not seek or receive preventive health care services and are thus particularly difficult for traditional screening programs to reach.

The application is due to CFHC on December 10, 2004. If the grant is awarded, the Department will return to the Board to accept the award.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Charles Larkin, Deputy County Counsel, (909) 387-5431) on November 18, 2004. This item has also been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Beatriz Valdez, Administrative Analyst, (909) 388-0211) on November 17, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: This item imposes no local County Cost. The grant application is for an amount of \$33,333 for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. Expenditures will be fully reimbursed by CFHC. The Department will return to the Board to request approval of the grant award and appropriation and revenue increases if necessary.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends approval, as it will impose no local cost to the County.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: James A. Felten, Public Health Director, (909) 387-9146

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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